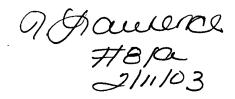
RD-27270 (3561)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant William Patrick FLANAGAN

Serial No. 09/609,921

Filing Date July 3, 2000

For METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HIGH-

THROUGHPUT CHEMICAL SCREENING

Examiner Brian J. Sines

Art Unit 1743

Box Non-Fee Amendment Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 FEB - 7 2993

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION (PAPER NO. 6)

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2002, allowing claims 33-38, rejecting claims 1-29, and objecting to claims 30-32 of the above-identified Application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments and remarks be considered.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 1 with the following:

(h)

In a preferred embodiment, reaction substrate 4 is positioned adjacent to, and in thermal communication with, a thermal unit 8. Thermal unit 8 adjustably maintains reaction substrate 4 at one or a series of temperatures, thereby heating or cooling the samples or reactant systems within substrate reservoir 6. Thermal unit 8 includes a thermally conductive material and a heating source 30 and a cooling source 20 to